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DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission Consumer Services Section 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

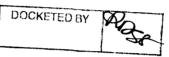
Arizona Corporation Commission

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Re: Docket No. G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Arizona Corporation Commission:



Southwest Gas has applied to the Arizona Corporation Commission for a Permanent Base Rate Increase.

I hereby appeal to the Commission to deny Southwest Gas a permanent rate increase for the following reasons:

- 1) A rate increase is will cause considerable hardship on those living on Social Security, such as myself, who were not given a cost of living increase by the Administration for the past two years. Deny Southwest Gas a rate increase!
- 2) Present-paying customers of Southwest Gas should not have to shoulder the burden of making up Southwest Gas' revenue shortfall resulting from foreclosures and former paying customers are now absent. Deny Southwest Gas a rate increase!
- 3) Conservation, such as reduced usage of natural gas by customers such as myself that results in decreased revenues for Southwest Gas, should not be offset by another rate increase just so Southwest Gas can continue to maintain its profit margin. Conservation should be rewarded and not punished, otherwise there is no incentive by the customers to conserve if it results in more rate increases. Make Conservation meaningful for the users by reward (lower rates), not punishment (rate increases). Deny Southwest Gas a permanent rate increase!
- 4) Southwest Gas should first get its house in order before going hat in hand to the Commission for another rate increase. Southwest Gas should show hard evidence that it is doing what it can to reduce its operating costs before asking for another rate increase; it should bite the bullet. Wasteful spending by Southwest Gas must stop and it should run its business as I run my household expenses, by cutting out the fat and spending only on necessities. Deny Southwest Gas a rate increase!

The Arizona Corporation Commission has long been known by the rate payers of Arizona that it is merely a rubber stamp for the big corporations and that its hearings are just window dressing. We rate payers don't seem to have our voices heard. I truly expect the Commission to grant Southwest Gas a rate increase, perhaps not as large as Southwest Gas wants this time. But, I truly expect Southwest Gas to come before the Commission again with another application for a rate increase, and get the remainder it didn't get the first time.

The Commission should deny Southwest Gas a rate increase for the reasons I enumerated above. When it does that then I'll believe my voice, and the voices of others, has been heard.

Very truly yours

Ronald S. Wielgus